

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00982 041255Z

51

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

L-03 AID-20 IGA-02 MC-02 EB-11 OMB-01 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 DODE-00 DRC-01 /129 W

----- 019831

R 041150Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1525

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T TRIPOLI 0982

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS LY FR UR

SUBJECT: LIBYAN ACQUISITION AND MAINTENANCE OF MILITARY
AIRCRAFT

1. LOCKHEED REP MURPHY, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF C-130 MAINTENANCE PROGRAM AT EX-WHEELUS AIR BASE, WAS TOLD BY LT COL FERJANI, LIBYAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER, THAT LIBYA HAD SO FAR BOUGHT NO RPT NO SOVIET AIRCRAFT "FOR ITS OWN USE". FERJANI HAS MADE TWO TRIPS TO MOSCOW RECENTLY. FERJANI COMMENTED THAT IF U.S. AND FRANCE WERE NOT MORE FORTHCOMING, LIBYAN AIR FORCE WOULD BE FORCED TO TURN TO SOVIET UNION FOR ITS EQUIPMENT. MURPHY TOLD US THERE WERE STRAINS BETWEEN LIBYANS AND FRENCH MIRAGE TECHNICIANS AT BASE. ABOUT HALF OF THIRTY MIRAGES STATIONED THERE WERE GROUNDED BECAUSE OF MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS.

2. MURPHY HAS TOLD LOCKHEED MANAGEMENT THAT EIGHT C-130'S IN LIBYA COULD NOT BE SUPPORTED MUCH LONGER WITH PRESENT TRICKLE OF SPARE PARTS. HE SAID LIBYANS ARE THINKING OF SENDING C-130'S TO OVERHAUL FACILITY IN BRITAIN (MARSHALL CO.). MURPHY POINTED OUT THIS COULD RAISE QUESTION OF

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APPROVAL FOR PROVISION OF SPARES FOR LIBYAN C-130'S VIA

THIS FACILITY.

3. RECENT ACQUISITION OF LAF WERE FEW YUGOSLAV JET
TRAINERS WHICH TOOK PART IN AIR DEMONSTRATION SEPT 1.
THESE ARE SO NEW THEY STILL CARRY YUGOSLAV MARKINGS.
STEIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, SPARE PARTS, AIRCRAFT SALES
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 04 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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To: STATE
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